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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 066  
10/069,519

Filing Date: 01/31/2002

Applicant: Troy Walters et. al.

Group Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: Anuradha Ramana

Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR MANIPULATING A  
FLEXIBLE STRAND AND SOFT TISSUE REPLACEMENT  
DURING SURGERY

Attorney Docket: 5490-000269

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Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office  
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AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed 3/24/2004, please amend the application as follows and consider the remarks set forth below.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 14 of this paper.